

For Immediate Release: September 25, 2008

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## -PRESS RELEASE -

## BYSIEWICZ REMINDS CONNECTICUT RESIDENTS THEY HAVE ONE MONTH TO REGISTER TO VOTE FOR NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> ELECTION

## SECRETARY OF THE STATE MOUNTING UNPRECEDENTED VOTER EDUCATION CAMPAIGN, ENSURING SAFE & SECURE ELECTIONS

**HARTFORD:** Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz is encouraging Connecticut residents to register to vote and reminding voters that the deadline to register is just one month away. Registration forms sent by mail must be postmarked no later than Tuesday October 21<sup>st</sup>. The deadline for individuals to turn in their voter registration form in person at their local municipal offices is Tuesday October 28<sup>th</sup> until 8:00pm.

"Time is running out to register to vote," said Bysiewicz. "This November 4<sup>th</sup>, as many as 1.7 million Connecticut residents will head to the polls. I urge anyone in Connecticut who is a U.S. citizen and will be 18 years old by Election Day to register to vote now! Registering to vote only takes a minute or two and allows you the opportunity to shape our country's future."

The Secretary of the State's office recently launched an unprecedented bilingual voter education campaign to ensure that all voters become familiar with new optical scan voting machines, paper ballots, and the vote-by-phone system. Information on all of these topics as well as a downloadable voter registration form, what identification to bring to the polling place, a voters' bill of rights, and information on where to cast ballots is available on the office's election website at www.vote-EZ-CT.com

In addition to the website, Bysiewicz will be launching a media campaign including television and radio advertisements in English and Spanish as well as printed materials in newspapers, direct mail and public transportation that will reach millions of Connecticut residents, educating them on how to fill out the paper ballots, and where and when to

register to vote. Bysiewicz estimates as many as 60% of registered voters in Connecticut still have not used the paper ballot system.

"Americans are taking their civic duties very seriously in 2008," said Bysiewicz. "In a time of economic upheaval, war, and environmental peril, millions of voters are making it clear they want a say in the future of this country. It is my goal to make sure all Connecticut voters have the information they need to make their voices heard on November 4<sup>th</sup>. I also want to reassure voters that Election Day will be managed in a safe, secure and orderly way."

Bysiewicz has previously reported that in Connecticut more than 125,000 new people have registered to vote in 2008 – the largest group of these new voters being young voters between the ages of 18-29.

In addition to the Presidential Election, Connecticut voters are choosing candidates for all 5 Congressional seats, 187 General Assembly seats, Registrars of Voters and various local contests. There are also two constitutional questions on the ballot.